
**NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

SEAC

Annual Report

2016-17



Nebraska Department of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987



Nebraska Department of Education

Matthew Blomstedt, PhD
Commissioner of Education

Gary M. Sherman and Steve Milliken
Special Education Administrators

Ann C. Bird
SEAC Facilitator

Karen Hoffman and Sheri Cherney
SEAC Recorders



A Note from the SEAC Chair

Hello everyone! I want you all to know how much I have enjoyed my service on the Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council. My appointment to the SEAC executive committee has provided me the opportunity to serve the children of Nebraska in an important role. My sole representation category has been as a parent. Not a job that pays me monetarily, but one that has called me to ensure a better education and life for, not only my children, but all Nebraska children. One word to sum up my years of volunteering on parent advisory committees, Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council, and now SEAC would be *Hope*.

I *Hope* my time on SEAC, was meaningful. The staff of the Nebraska Department of Special Education has done a fantastic job of disseminating an enormous amount of information. They have also, in my opinion, done a fantastic job of listening to providers, educators, and parents, resulting in an environment of full collaboration. Allowing for the best possible services to be implemented, meaning the best possible education for Nebraska's children.

I *Hope* my time on SEAC, has afforded a voice to children who do not have a voice. I have observed parents having important discussions with all levels of providers and educators. At times processing the avalanche of acronyms and detailed information was difficult. But, there was always someone willing to break down the information and allow me to participate in all discussions and decisions.

I *Hope* all SEAC members have the opportunity to truly know a family who has a child with special needs and to see the daily difficulties and barriers we face. But more importantly, see that we have Hopes and dreams for our children as well. I Hope you all remember why you chose a career in Special Education; each day you are giving Hope to Nebraska children and families. I Hope you remember to smile and laugh, even when your workload seems insurmountable. I Hope you remember to always listen, especially to those who have no voice; they have the most to say.

Here's to *Hope*!

Carey Winkler

Carey Winkler
SEAC Chair 2016-2017

What Is the Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)?

The Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) is an advisory panel established to provide policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities. SEAC members become knowledgeable about research-based educational practices and review Nebraska Department of Education, Office of Special Education activities designed to improve outcomes for children with disabilities. The Council reviews and approves Nebraska's State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report.

SEAC Members are selected for a term of four years, and seek information from the perspectives of their constituency groups and share information with these same constituency groups. Members include parents and professionals from all areas of the state. SEAC serves in an advisory capacity to the NDE Office of Special Education, the Commissioner of Education, and to the Nebraska State Board of Education.

The responsibility of each Council member is to advise, (i.e. inform, counsel, recommend, suggest or guide) the Department of Education, not to advocate for individual issues. Recommendations are made by SEAC for the consideration and possible action by the NDE Special Education Office and the State Board.



Special Education Advisory Council Members 2016-17

Regulatory Authority

By the authority of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004, each state is required to have a state advisory panel that provides policy guidance in the area of serving children with disabilities. The IDEA regulations specify the duties and make-up of each state advisory panel. In Nebraska, this panel is called the ***Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council***.

Excerpts from the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 IDEA

I. Regulatory Authority for Committee

Sec. 1412(21)(A) State Advisory Panel

- a. The State has established and maintains an advisory panel for the purpose of providing policy guidance with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities in the State.

II. Committee

Sec. 1412(21)(D)

(D) The state advisory panel shall –

- (i) Advise the state education agency of unmet needs within the state in the education of children with disabilities;
- (ii) comment publicly on the state plan and rules or regulations proposed for issuance by the state regarding the education of children with disabilities;
- (iii) advise the State educational agency in developing evaluations and reporting on data to the Secretary under section 618;
- (iv) advise the State educational agency in developing corrective action plans to address findings identified in Federal monitoring reports under this part; and
- (v) advise the State educational agency in developing and implementing policies relating to the coordination of services for children with disabilities.

2016-17 SEAC MEMBERSHIP

| NAME | CITY | REPRESENTATION | TERM | DIST. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------|-------|
| Frank Adams fadams@abbnebraska.com | Wayne, NE | (iii) | 2017 | 3 |
| Kasey Alexander kpest01@wsc.edu | Wisner, NE | (i), (ii) | 2019 | 3 |
| ◆ Ann Auten aauten@hastings.edu | Blue Hill NE | (i), (iii) | 2020 | 5 |
| Paul Bohn pbohn@paplv.org | Papillion, NE | (iv) | 2020 | 2 |
| Diane Bruha dianebr@creteschools.org | Crete, NE | (v) | 2017 | 5 |
| Julie Czepa julie.czepa@gmail.com | Papillion, NE | (i) | 2020 | 2 |
| Millie Demuth millie@nsecu.org | Lincoln, NE | (i) | 2014 | 1 |
| Jeremy Ekeler jeremy-ekeler@cdolinc.net | Lincoln NE | (i), (vii) | 2020 | 1 |
| Barb Gentrup Barb.gentrup@gibbonpublic.org | Ravenna, NE | (i), (ii) | 2018 | 6 |
| Queen Greene qgreene@cox.net | Omaha, NE | (i) | 2016 | 4 |
| Jody Hitesman jhitesman@esu9.org | Juniata, NE | (viii) | 2017 | 6 |
| Terry Houlton thoulton@mpsomaha.org | Omaha, NE | (v) | 2018 | 2 |
| Samantha Jacobson sammy.201213@gmail.com | Norfolk, NE | (i) | 2016 | 3 |
| Kami Jessop Jessop.kami@westside66.net | Omaha, NE | (v) | 2015 | 1 |
| ▣ Cate Jones-Hazledine dr_cate@westernnebraskabehavioralhealth.com | Rushville, NE | (i), (iv) | 2018 | 7 |
| Mary Jorgensen maryjorgensen@fnni.com | Omaha, NE | (i) | 2014 | 2 |
| Seamus Kelly seamus.3668@gmail.com | Omaha, NE | (1) | 2019 | 8 |
| Renee Kiernan Rkiernan123@gmail.com | Papillion, NE | (i) | 2018 | 2 |
| Emily Kluver emily.kluver@nebraska.gov | Lincoln, NE | (ix) | 2017 | 1 |
| ◆ Kristen Larsen kristen.larsen@nebraska.gov | Lincoln, NE | (vi) | 2015 | 1 |
| Steve Larsen slarsen@scottsbluffcounty.org | Mitchell, NE | (x) | 2016 | 7 |
| Heidi Reelfs heidi.reelfs@unmc.edu | Omaha, NE | (ii), (vi) | 2020 | 4 |
| Graciela Sharif gsharif@pti-nebraska.org | Omaha, NE | (i), (vi) | 2017 | 8 |
| ◆ Carey Winkler cwinkler@les.com | Lincoln, NE | (i) | 2017 | 1 |
| Marie Wohlers mmwohlers@gmail.com | Crawford, NE | (i) | 2015 | 7 |

▣ SEAC Chair

◆ SEAC Executive Committee Member

SEAC Membership Requirements

Categories of Required Representation

**(Excerpts from the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act – IDEA)
Sec. 1412(21)(B)**

(B) Membership – Such advisory panel shall consist of members appointed by the Governor, or any other official authorized under State law to make such appointments, be representative of the State population, and be composed of individuals involved in, or concerned with, the education of children with disabilities, including—

- (i) parents of children with disabilities (ages birth through 26); or Individuals with disabilities;
- (ii) teachers;
- (iii) representatives of institutions of higher education that prepare special education and related services personnel;
- (iv) State and local educational officials who carry out activities under Homeless Assistance Act;
- (v) administrators of programs for children with disabilities;
- (vi) representatives of other State agencies involved in the financing or delivery of related services to children with disabilities;
- (vii) representatives of private schools and public charter schools;
- (viii) not less than one representative of a vocational, community, or business organization concerned with the provision of transition services to children with disabilities; and
- (ix) a representative from the State child welfare agency responsible for foster care; and
- (x) representatives from the State juvenile and adult corrections agencies. Special Rule – a majority of the members of the panel shall be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities.

Special Rules – a majority of the members of the panel shall be individuals with disabilities or parents of children with disabilities (ages birth through 26).

Excerpt from Nebraska Special Education Advisory Council Operating Procedures
Article II, Sec. B

The members shall be selected so as to represent all eight of the State Board of Education election districts. The Council voting membership shall not be fewer than 15 members.

SEAC PRIORITIES* **2015-16 through 2017-18**

For the purpose of providing policy guidance to the Nebraska Department of Education with respect to special education and related services for children with disabilities, the following priorities were established for 2015-16 through 2017-18:

- ❖ To participate in the development, review and revision of the Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP) Process implemented at the local level to improve results for students with disabilities in the following areas:
 - **Impact Area 1:** Improving Academic Achievement, Functional Outcomes and Child Outcomes in Natural and Inclusive Environments
 - **Impact Area 2:** Improving Communication and Relationships Among Families, Schools, Communities and Agencies
 - **Impact Area 3:** Improving Transitions from the Early Development Network to Preschool and School to Adult Living

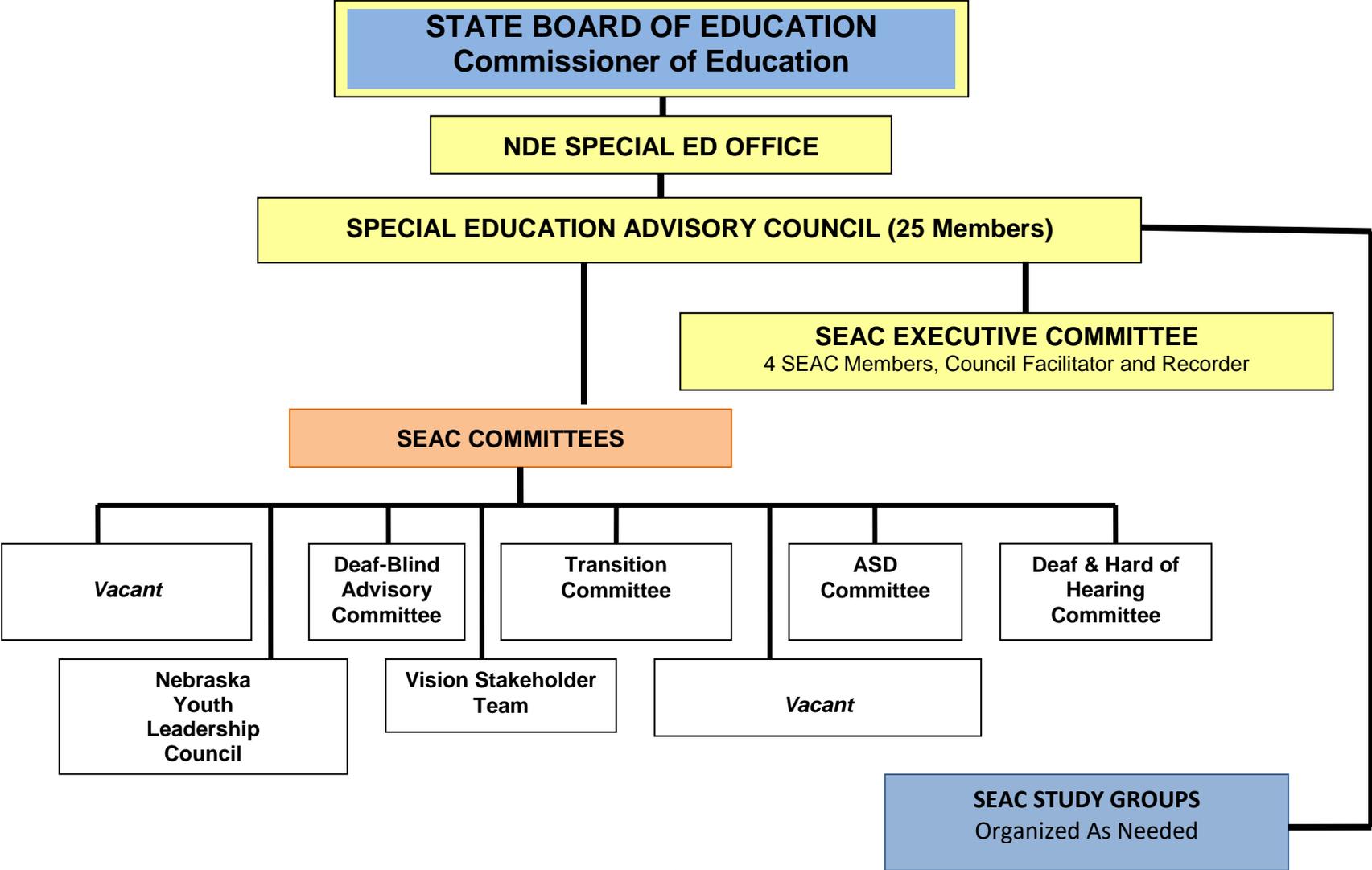
- ❖ To review the effectiveness of the current State Performance Plan (SPP) through the analysis of data in the Annual Performance Report (APR) to determine that Nebraska is demonstrating continuous improvement in the compliance and results indicators.

- ❖ To review and advise the Nebraska Department of Education regarding the development and implementation of the State Systemic Improvement Plan.

- ❖ To monitor state and federal legislation, including the Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to assure the linkage between ESEA and IDEA.

**Approved by SEAC April 16, 2015*

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL STRUCTURE



Reviewing the Work of SEAC 2016-17

The Special Education Advisory Council met for four regularly scheduled meetings throughout the year, with a new member orientation meeting conducted prior to the first meeting of the year. The Council met on: September 15, 2016, November 17, 2016, January 19, 2017 and April 20, 2017. All meetings were held in Lincoln, NE.

The 2016-17 SEAC year began on September 14th, with an Orientation training session for the new members joining the Council. New Council members reviewed the SEAC Priorities for 2015-18 and received an overview of Nebraska's State Performance Plan and the Annual Performance Report.

Throughout the year, SEAC reviewed prior to, or at each meeting, the progress of the following SEAC Committees and their initiatives and activities:

- Deaf/Blind Committee
- Autism Spectrum Disorders Committee
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing Committee
- Nebraska Youth Leadership Council
- Transition Advisory Committee
- Vision Stakeholder Team

As part of the materials and agenda for all SEAC meetings, information was provided regarding the following:

- Due process case reports and Nebraska legislation
- Annual Performance Report updates
- State Performance Plan updates
- School district determinations and public reporting status
- ILCD (Monitoring) Procedures

The ***SEAC Priorities for 2015-16 through 2017-18***, included in this Annual Report, shaped the foundation for the construction of each SEAC Meeting Agenda. All SEAC business related to one or more of these priorities, with regular input from the NDE Special Education Office Administrators. Agendas for all SEAC meetings are included herein.

SEAC AGENDA
September 15, 2016

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel – Hawthorne Room

| | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 | Registration | |
| 8:30 | Welcome | Gary Sherman, NDE Steve Milliken, NDE Carey Winkler, Chair |
| | Introductions <i>“Who ARE all these people?”</i> | |
| 9:00 | Council Business | Carey Winkler |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meetings Law Announcement• Approval of April 21, 2016 Minutes*• Approval of September 15, 2016 Agenda*• 2015-16 SEAC Annual Report• Notice of Conferences/Meetings• 2016-17 Proposed SEAC Meeting Dates*<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ November 17, 2016○ January 19, 2017○ April 20, 2017 | Annie Bird |
| 9:30 | New Executive Committee Member <i>“Class” of 2020 Candidates Speak</i> | Carey Winkler |
| 9:45 | SEAC Priorities 2015-2018 | Carey Winkler |
| 10:00 | <i>Transfer of Educational Rights at the Age of Majority: Providing Guidance*</i> | Amy Rhone Small Group Discussion |
| 10:45 | BREAK | |
| 11:00 | Nebraska Re-Engagement Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kearney• Papillion-LaVista• Ogallala | Kelly Wojcik Melisa Dobish Amy Walters McKayla LaBorde Jackie Anderson Jennifer Bekke Annie Bird |
| 12:00 | Working Lunch** <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly <i>Directors’ Conference Calls</i>• SAP Webinars• Election of Executive Committee Member | |
| 12:50 | Public Comments | |
| 1:00 | NDE Rule 51 Revision | Amy Rhone |
| 1:15 | NDE Special Education Office | |
| | Leadership Team Reports | Steve Milliken Robyn Gonzalez |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data <i>Nebraska Child Count Data</i>• Program Improvement | Kelly Wojcik |

SSIP and TIPS

- **Monitoring/ILCD**
Regional Meetings

Amy Rhone

- **Finance**
Special Education Funding

Greg Prochazka

2:15

Federal Updates

- *Part C* of IDEA
- *Part B* of IDEA

Cole Johnson

Amy Rhone

2:50

Update on ESSA

Steve Milliken

US Department of Education Dear Colleague

Amy Rhone

Letter on *Positive Behavioral Supports*

3:30

Adjourn

* **Items requiring Council action**

** **Lunch is provided for SEAC members and scheduled presenters**

SEAC AGENDA
November 17, 2016

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel – Yankee Hill III

| | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 8:00 | Registration | |
| 8:30 | Welcome | Carey Winkler Gary Sherman |
| 8:40 | Council Business | Carey Winkler Annie Bird |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meetings Law Announcement• Approval of September 15, 2016 Minutes*• Approval of November 17, 2016 Agenda*• Notice of Conferences/Meetings | |
| 9:00 | Early Childhood Progress Reports for Cohorts | Teresa Berube |
| 9:20 | A View from the NDE Legal Office | Sara Hulac NDE Legal Counsel |
| 9:40 | Who Are All These People? | Carey Winkler Steve Milliken |
| 10:10 | 92 NAC 51: Phases I and II | Amy Rhone |
| 10:30 | BREAK | |
| 10:45 | SSIP: Phase III Guidance and Work Parts B and C | Kelly Wojcik Amy Bunnell |
| 11:15 | Special Education Fiscal Update | Greg Prochazka Amy Rhone |
| 11:35 | Public Comment | |
| 11:45 | Working Lunch | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Age of Majority</i> Executive Summary* Adoption of NDE Guidance | Amy Rhone |
| 12:45 | K-12 Student Engagement Project: Analytics | Dr. Reece Peterson UNL |
| 1:45 | Summary of D/HH Task Force D/HH Committee Report | Steve Milliken Rhonda Fleischer |
| 2:15 | Student Assessment: ACT Update 1% Update | Sharon Heater |
| 2:30 | DMS Updates: Parts B and C | Amy Rhone |
| 2:45 | Special Education and Nebraska's 150 th | Annie Bird |
| 3:30 | Adjourn | |

* Items requiring Council Action

SEAC AGENDA

January 19, 2017

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel – Yankee Hill III

| | | |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 8:00 | Registration | |
| 8:30 | Welcome | Carey Winkler Steve Milliken |
| 8:40 | Council Business | Carey Winkler Annie Bird |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meetings Law Announcement• Approval of November 17, 2016 Minutes*• Approval of January 19, 2017 Agenda*• Notice of Conferences/Meetings | |
| 9:00 | NDE Projects Update | Amy Rhone |
| 9:30 | Deaf and Hard of Hearing Updates | Teresa Coonts Rhonda Fleischer |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ed Interpreter TA Document• DHH Work Group NCDHH• Services using SPOT Analysis | |
| 10:00 | SEAC Committee Report: NYLC | Samantha Jacobson Elizabeth Paesl |
| 10:30 | BREAK | |
| 10:45 | SEAC Committee Report: ASD | Annette Wragge |
| 11:30 | State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report: An Overview | Amy Rhone |
| 12:00 | Working Lunch | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• U.S. Supreme Court discussion on “meaningful” education required by IDEA• State Budget Cuts: Education | |
| 1:00 | SPP/APR: Part C Update | Cole Johnson Amy Bunnell |
| 1:30 | SPP/APR: Part B Update | Kelly Wojcik Amy Rhone |
| 2:00 | NDE Special Education Office: Strategic Plan | Steve Milliken Amy Rhone |
| 3:00 | Public Comment | |
| 3:30 | Adjourn | |

- **Items requiring Council action**

NEBRASKA SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

April 20, 2017

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel – Yankee Hill III

| | | |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 | Registration | |
| 8:30 | Welcome | Cate Jones Hazeldine Steve Milliken |
| 8:40 | Council Business | Cate Jones Hazeldine Annie Bird |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Meetings Law Announcement• Approval of January 19, 2017 Minutes*• Approval of April 20, 2017 Agenda*• Notice of Conferences and Meetings | |
| 9:00 | Special Education Office Strategic Planning and Vision | Steve Milliken Amy Rhone |
| 9:45 | Assistive Technology | Pete Biaggio Allie Kropp |
| 10:30 | BREAK | |
| 10:45 | State Systemic Improvement Plan | Amy Rhone |
| 11:05 | SEAC Committee Report: Transition | Rita Hammitt |
| 11:35 | Stakeholder Meeting Review | Amy Rhone |
| 12:00 | Working Lunch** | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legislation | Steve Milliken Amy Rhone |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEAC Member Recruitment• First Meeting Date 2017-18 | Annie Bird Annie Bird |
| 1:00 | ECSE-Preschool Suspension Issues | Cole Johnson Amy Bunnell Teresa Berube |
| 2:00 | SEAC Retirement Recognition | Steve Milliken Annie Bird |
| 3:10 | Public Comment | |
| 3:30 | Adjourn | |

* **Items requiring Council action**

** **Lunch is provided for SEAC members and scheduled present**

SEAC Committees 2016-2017

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR DEAF-BLINDNESS

The purpose of the Advisory Committee for Deaf-Blindness is to provide input and guidance on grant activities and evaluation. The Advisory Committee for Deaf-Blindness, as well as the Technical Assistance Team, meets a minimum of two times per year and offers input and support to all grant activities, and annually presents information to SEAC.

| Name | Representation | City |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Laura Barrett | Special Education Director, ESU #13 | Scottsbluff |
| Marge Beatty | Administrator, ESU#16 | Ogallala |
| Mike Brummer | D/HH Activity Coordinator, ESU #3 | Omaha |
| Kimberly Davis | NE Commission for D/HH | Lincoln |
| Kara Delano | SLP, ESU #15 | Trenton |
| Julie Delkamiller | UNO SpEd and Communication Disorders | Omaha |
| Matt Fenster | Special Education Director, Bellevue | Bellevue |
| Nancy Flearl | Supervisor, NE Comm.Blind/VI | Omaha |
| Angel Foster | Early Childhood, ESU #15; | Trenton |
| Sherri Frisbie | TVI and O & M Contract | |
| Penny Gildea | Parent | Omaha |
| Phyllis Graney | ATP Western Coordinator | Ogallala |
| Barbara Johnson | VI Teacher, Lincoln Public Schools | Lincoln |
| LeAnna MacDonald | TVI and O & M, Westside Community Schools | Omaha |
| Julie McGuire-Cornwell | DB Parent Leadership Team | Omaha |
| Diane Meyer | Coordinator, Metro Regional Programs Deaf/HH | Omaha |
| Joyce Olson | TVI, Private Provider | Genoa |
| Sandy Peterson | PTI-Nebraska | Omaha |
| Mackenzie Savaiano | VI Program Coordinator, UNL | Lincoln |
| Jennifer Stuhmer | Parent, DB Parent Leadership Team | Lincoln |
| Dixie Trevarthen | ATP Southeast Coordinator | Fremont |
| Teresa Coonts | NDE Project Director | Omaha |
| Tanya Hilligoss | Project Coordinator | Nebraska City |

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMITTEE

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Committee is composed of stakeholders representing D/HH Regional Programs, parents, school administrators, Nebraska School for the Deaf alumni, higher education, and agencies providing services to children who are deaf and hard of hearing. Committee members present information about the activities of their organizations and meet two times each year. The purpose is to coordinate and prevent redundancy of services and activities, as well as to gather input regarding services for and activities of youth with hearing impairments.

| Name | Representation | City |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Laura Barrett | Central Western Nebraska Partnership | Scottsbluff |
| Lori Bartels | Millard Public Schools | Omaha |
| Frances Beurivage | Boys Town National Research Hospital | Omaha |
| Jill Bird | Southeast NE Regional Program | Lincoln |
| Pat Bracken | Vocational Rehabilitation | Lincoln |
| Thomas Beyer | NeRID | |
| Mike Brummer | Metro Regional Program | Omaha |
| Teresa Coonts | NDE Low Incidence Team Leader | Omaha |
| Sue Czaplewski | Central Western Nebraska Partnership | Hastings |
| Lindsay Darnall, Jr. | NeAD | Polk |
| Julie Delkamiller | UNO | Omaha |
| Renee Engel | Grand Island Public Schools | Grand Island |
| Cara Frost | Lincoln Public Schools | Lincoln |
| Jenny Fundus | Lincoln Public Schools | Lincoln |
| Greg Gaden | ESU #3 | Omaha |
| Sheri Harrington | NeRID | Lincoln |
| Tanya Hilligoss | NCECBVI | Lincoln |
| Jill Hoffart | Northeast Regional Program | Norfolk |
| Shelli Janning | GBYS | Blair |
| Lynn Johnson-Romero | Westside Community Schools | Omaha |
| Mary Luhr | Norfolk Public Schools | Norfolk |
| Stacy Luther | Nebraska Hands and Voices | Omaha |
| Diane Meyer | Metro Regional Program | Omaha |
| Nancy Meyer | ESU #6 | Milford |
| Donna Moss | Hastings Public Schools | Hastings |
| Jessica Nichols | Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation | Omaha |
| Sara Peterson | ESU #13 | Scottsbluff |
| Kaylene Randall | Bellevue Public Schools | Bellevue |
| Jonathan Scherling | UNO | Omaha |
| Lindsey Schubert | Bellevue Public Schools | Bellevue |
| Peter Seiler | Deaf Community Representative | Lincoln |
| Deb Siemers | Gretna Public Schools | Gretna |
| Vickii Steinhauer-Campbell | Vocational Rehabilitation | Lincoln |
| Missy Stithem | AMPLIFY | Lincoln |
| Ellen Stokebrand | ESU #4 | Auburn |
| Anne Thomas | UNL | Lincoln |
| Deb Vapenik | ESU #16 | North Platte |
| Denise Wolfe | Grand Island Public Schools | Grand Island |
| John Wyvill | NCDHH | Lincoln |
| Rhonda Fleischer | Facilitator, NDE | Hastings |

TRANSITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Transition Advisory Committee meets three times a year to discuss statewide topics related to the transition of students from high school to adult living. This committee generates recommendations specific to state planning for trainings, technical assistance resources, and state procedures for collecting and analyzing specific transition data.

| Name | Representation | City |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Nina Baker | PTI Nebraska | Omaha |
| Marie Barrett | Parent | Lincoln |
| Pamela Brezenski | ESU #13 | Scottsbluff |
| Tami Clay | ESU #9 | Hastings |
| Sharon Dalrymple | Families Inspiring Families | Lincoln |
| Debbie Forshee-Sweeny | Union College | Lincoln |
| Shana Frodyma | Omaha Public Schools | Omaha |
| Angela Fujan | Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation | Lincoln |
| Greg Gaden | ESU #3 | Omaha |
| Brigid Griffin | Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation | Norfolk |
| Cindy Hahn | Central Community College | Hastings |
| Rita Hammit | NDE, Committee Chair | Omaha |
| Megan Hoeft | NYLC | Lincoln |
| Amy Mazankowski | ESU #7 | Columbus |
| Lona Nelson-Milks | ESU #11 | Holdrege |
| Elizabeth Paesl | Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation | Columbus |
| Lisa Parish | Parent | North Platte |
| Mary Philips | Lincoln Public Schools | Lincoln |
| Daria Pierorazio | Program Supervisor, CNSSP | Grand Island |
| Victoria Rasmussen | Director, Client Assistance Program | Lincoln |
| Michelle Salberg | Parent | Sterling |
| Amy Slama | ESU #7 | Columbus |
| Tammy Stephens | Munroe-Meyer Institute | Omaha |
| Dr. Pearl VanZandt | NCBVI | Lincoln |



NEBRASKA YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL (NYLC)



The Nebraska Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) has been in place as a SEAC Committee since 2008, and is funded jointly by the Nebraska Department Office of Special Education and Vocational Rehabilitation. The NYLC is comprised of students ages 15-21 years with various disabilities who live across Nebraska. The NYLC provides input from the student perspective regarding school services and employment, including academic, social, and transition activities.

| Name | City |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Jessica Barrett | Morrill |
| Andre Braun | Humphrey |
| Abbey Buettgenbach | Pierce |
| Forrest Burroughs | Lincoln |
| Tresa Christensen | Kearney |
| Nicole Daake | Elwood |
| Valarie Dowling | Newcastle |
| Kaitlyn Ericson | York |
| Justyn Free | Lincoln |
| Gina Geiger | York |
| Kathryn Heng | York |
| Brice Hilfiker | David City |
| Brionna Hoos | Grand Island |
| Kenneth Hoselton | Grand Island |
| Addy Hunter | Omaha |
| Samantha Jacobson | Norfolk |
| Tia Kumwenda | Lincoln |
| Travis O'Connell | Hastings |
| Bruce Peoples, II | Papillion |
| Kaylee Pierce | David City |
| Adam Scott | Gering |
| Julia Sullivan | Aurora |
| Nicole Sullivan | Pierce |
| Justin Valentine | Bellevue |
| Cassidy Wall | Ashland |
| Michaela Wells | Omaha |
| Clarissah Woten | Omaha |
| Gabrielle Zeger | Elkhorn |
| Elizabeth Paesl, Facilitator | Nebraska Department of Education |

VISION STAKEHOLDER TEAM

Members of the Vision Stakeholder Team represent individuals, agencies and groups interested in the provision of educational and mobility services to students with visual impairments. Annually, the members review activities conducted by the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children Who Are Blind and Visually Impaired, including residential, education and outreach services across Nebraska.

| Name | Representation | City |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Cindy Barr-McNair | Millard Public Schools | Omaha |
| Scott Eckman | Lincoln Public Schools | Lincoln |
| Jon Fisher | Educational Service Unit #4 | Auburn |
| Sherri Frisbie | Independent Service Provider | Omaha |
| Audrey Graves | NCECBVI* | Nebraska City |
| Shelly Gray | Consumer | Omaha |
| Elissa Heibel | ESU #7 | Columbus |
| Tanya Hilligoss | NCECBVI | Nebraska City |
| Jason Hippen | Nebraska City Public Schools | Nebraska City |
| Meribeth Jackson | Omaha Public Schools | Omaha |
| Lisa Kelly | Outlook Nebraska, Inc. | Omaha |
| Alie Kropp | ATP | Cozad |
| Wendy Kemling | Scottsbluff Public Schools | Scottsbluff |
| Karen Kindred | NCECBVI | Nebraska City |
| Jean Loberg | Parent | Wayne |
| Barb Loos | Consumer | Lincoln |
| Norma Mercer | Parent | Beatrice |
| Darus Mettler | ESU #7 | Columbus |
| Linda Plager | Region V | Nebraska City |
| Susan Pope | NCECBVI | Nebraska City |
| Mary Robinson | Fremont Public Schools | Fremont |
| Mackenzie Savaiano | UNL | Lincoln |
| Troy and Nancy Solsaa | Parents | Waverly |
| Pearl Van Zandt | NE Comm.-Blind and Visually Impaired | Lincoln |
| Dana Welch | NCECBVI | Nebraska City |
| Cheryl Wichman | Parent | Nebraska City |
| Sharon Wordekemper | McCook Public Schools | McCook |
| Teresa Coonts | Facilitator, NDE Special Education Office | Omaha |
| Sally Schreiner | Facilitator, NCECBVI* | Nebraska City |

*Nebraska Center for the Education of Children Who Are Blind and Visually Impaired

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS (ASD) COMMITTEE



The ASD Committee provides advice to NDE, the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC), and the University of Nebraska (UNL) concerning the following:

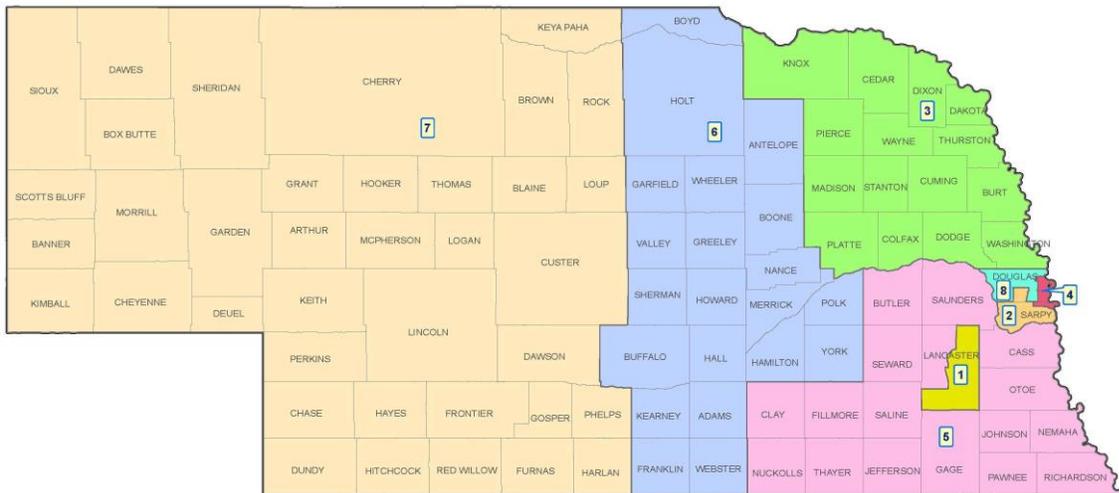
- The ASD Network’s role in teaching the delivery of appropriate services for children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD);
- The review of current pertinent research and information regarding methodologies and delivery systems for ASD;
- The review of all due process trends associated with children with ASD;
- Recommendations for ASD training of educators, parents and community; and
- Recommendations for ASD teaching competencies/standards.

| Name | Representation | City |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Dr. Cindy Ellis | UNMC-MMI | Omaha |
| Rene Ferdinand | Autism Center of Nebraska | Omaha |
| Greg Gaden | Special Education Director ESU #3 | Omaha |
| Queen Greene | SEAC Committee Member | Omaha |
| Jamie Lewis | Occupational Therapist | Holdrege |
| Brenda McNiff | Special Education Director | Beatrice |
| Jacquelyn Miller | Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation | Lincoln |
| Jennifer Splichal | Speech Language Pathologist | Scottsbluff |
| Lenette Sprunk | ESUs 5, 6 and 7 Assistive Tech Specialist | Columbus |
| Torri Tejral | Autism Leadership Academy Coordinator | Omaha |
| Staff | Agency | City |
| Teresa Coonts | Facilitator, NDE Special Education Office | Omaha |
| Sonja Chatfield-Peetz | ASD Northeast Region Coordinator | Columbus |
| Mary Flory | ASD Southeast Region Coordinator | Milford |
| Melinda Henson | ASD Behavior Consultant | Lincoln |
| Terri McGill | ASD Metro Region Coordinator | Omaha |
| Ashley Meyer | ASD Western Region Coordinator | Scottsbluff |
| Megan Misegadis | ASD Network Assistant/Parent | Lincoln |
| Dawna Sigurdson | ASD Central Region Coordinator | Kearney |
| Annette Wragge | Facilitator, ASD Network Coordinator | Lincoln |

NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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| 6 | Maureen Nickels |
| 7 | Molly O'Holleran |
| 8 | Patrick McPherson |
| | Matthew Blomstedt, Ph.D Commissioner of Education |

Nebraska State Board of Education District Map



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 Copies of this report and additional information regarding the
 Special Education Advisory Council and the
 Nebraska Department of Education's Special Education Office can be obtained at:
<http://www.education.ne.gov/SPED/sped.html>